

MPS Innovation and Improvement Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 24, 2009

8:00 A.M.

Riverside High School – Room 207

1615 E. Locust Street

Milwaukee, WI

Present: Mayor Tom Barrett, Chair; Michael Bonds; Ricardo Diaz; Willie Jude, Jr.; Brenda Martinez; Dr. Joan Prince; Paul Sweeney; Audra Brennan, Project Manager

**1) Welcome – Chair Mayor Tom Barrett
Daniel Donder, Riverside H.S. Principal**

2) Review of Minutes from June 3rd meeting – Chair

**3) Overview of School Finance Formula –
Brian Pahnke, Assistant State Superintendent,
Department of Public Instruction**

Refer to handout for presentation details.

Discussion Points:

- In response to the General Equalization Aid Formula slide, a member pointed out that only public school children counted for determining equalized value per student
- The relative amount of state aid by district was displayed on a state map.
- It was also pointed out that pupils are counted in the district where they reside and based on avg of Sept/January membership. It was pointed out there would now be another option to use the May membership.
- In response to the Categorical School Aids – Member asked how ESL Aids were distributed.
- In response to the slide on MPCP aid deduction from MPS a Member asked how this interacted with not counting MPCP for equalization aid. Separate effects as # of choice participants increase - 1) less aid per MPS pupil b/c district seen as “richer” 2) more aid deducted.

4) Overview of McKinsey Report “Toward a Stronger Milwaukee Public Schools” – Mary Burke, Report Project Manager

Refer to report for presentation details. Areas highlighted include:

- Financial and Academic Challenges
- Summary of Key Findings
 1. MPS’ per-pupil spending is roughly in line with state and national averages.
 2. MPS’ budget pressures are driven primarily by increasing expenses and declining enrollment.
 3. Over the next 5 years, the budget gap could approach \$200 million.
 4. MPS’ financial challenges can be overcome.

5. Robust performance management is essential for driving and sustaining meaningful changes in operations.
 6. Changes in how MPS spends its non-instructional dollars could strengthen its ability to invest in academic improvements.
- Even in a relatively optimistic scenario, MPS will still have a gap of about \$110 million or more.
 - Five potential initiatives:
 1. Purchasing transformation
 2. Lean operations/efficiency
 3. Facilities optimization
 4. Transportation optimization
 5. Benefits program redesign
 - Active employee health care benefits and options
 - Retiree health care benefits and options
 - Implement robust Performance Management System with timeframe
 - Performance Management Diagnostic

Discussion Points:

- Member pointed out that MPS was implementing budget saving strategies, such as selling facilities.
- Member asked about status of trying to address the non-inclusion of Choice kids in the formula. It has been raised for some time and changes have been made to try to address it.
- Member raised issue of who would be able to implement the changes outlined in study – search for new superintendent is underway.

5) Discussion of Committees and future agenda items

Next meeting: July 7, 2009, 8:00 A.M. – 10:30 A.M.
South Division High School